MR. AND MRS. KEVIN COLLINS of Appomattox are completely renovating this old home, near Evergreen on Route 460. The home, which was originally that of Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham, is being renovated by local contractor Dick Bass. With the rising costs of building new homes, many Appomattox Countians are giving more consideration to renovating older existing homes.

Choose garden site with great care

One place is not as good as another when planning a garden site.

"Many factors can influence the harvest in the home vegetable garden," said Virginia Tech Extension specialist in home horticulture, Diane Relf. "frost, prevailing winds and nearby trees can influence a garden's production.

Those gardeners selecting or considering changing sites should keep these items in mind, she said.

Vegetables grow best in a level area that has loose, well.drained soil and receives at least six hours of sun. A site that has eight to 10 hours of sun is ideal.

Avoid windy locations. A southern slope will be the warmest.

Avoid placing the garden in a low spot, at the base of a hill, or

(Cont'd on Page 11)

Paint increases home's value

(Cont'd from Page 9)

If this cannot be done, sand the surface smooth, apply an exterior primer, dry thoroughly, then paint.

Mildew looks like dirt, but is actually a fungus growth which, if left on your walls, will grow right through a new coat of paint.

It should be removed with diluted bleach, dried, then primed. Wait two or three days before applying a finish coat.

Light colors look larger

Interior problems can also be helped with paint. Painting a small broom with light, bright colors can create the illusion that the space is larger than it really is.

A large room can be made to appear smaller and cozier with the use of deeper, darker tones.

Surface preparation for interior painting means cleaning away dirt, grime and wax buildup, patching cracks and holes, dulling lossy surfaces and priming new plaster to prevent chalking.

Wallpaper should be removed with steam, removing all glue and sizing as well. Where wallpaper cannot be removed, consult a professional paint dealer for advice.

Peeling main interior problem

The most common interior painting problem is peeling. Improper surface preparation is usually the cause-grease, wax polishes or dirt were present or gloss was not removed by sanding or wiping with gloss remover. Remove all loose paint, sand smooth, wash, prime, dry and repaint.

Peeling paint will also occur on plaster or masonry subjected to moisture entering the walls.

Remove the paint and neutralize the area with a leak acid. Prime with an oil base primer, let dry thoroughly and paint.

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WAYNE DOSS, WILSON MANN and Grover Hall pour concrete for a new basement for a home in Appomattox County. With the warmer weather of spring, many homeowners will begin improvements on their homes here. (Photo by Allen Austin)

Locate garden carefully

(Cont'd from Page 10)

at the foot of a slope bordered by a solid fence. Such areas are slow to warm up in the spring and frost settles in these places because of a lack of air movement.

Locate the garden near a good supply of water if possible.

However, too much water can be just as damaging as too little. Sandy soils can be improved by adding large amounts of organic matter. Minor drainage problems can often be solved through addition of organic matter. If the poor drainage is caused by underlying layers of rock or hard clay, correcting the drainage could involve the labor and expense of laying tiles.

Choose a spot near the living quarters so it is convenient to work in the garden for short periods of time.

Avoid planting near trees or shrubs. They compete for nutrients and water.

If the area is hilly, use contour rows or terraces to avoid erosion.

Once the site is selected, the faculty member in Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences suggested that planting be carefully planned too.

Plan the garden plot so that tall crops are on the north side of the garden. Then they won't shade the shorter vegetables.

Group plants by length of growing period. Plant spring crops together so that later crops can be planted in the space when the early crops mature.

Do not plant related vegetables in exactly the same location in the garden more often than once in three years. This rotation prevents the build up of insects and disease. Keep the old plans to use as guides for rotating crops.

For a customized look at home

Mix and match wall coverings

Today, anyone who can coordinate her clothes and accessories can create a customized look in her home. With many wallcovering manufacturers now producing entire collections which offer coordinated wallcoverings as well as coordinated fabrics, a mix-and-match decorating scheme is easy and mistake-proof.

Coordinated fabrics-once available only through professional designers-are very prevalent today, and an important aid to the custom look, according to the Wallcovering Information Bureau.

They can be used for upholstery fabrics, curtains, draperies, slipcovers, pillows, tabletops, shower curtains and bedspreads.

Many types of coordinates

Coordinated wallcoverings are usually done in matching colors, but some are in contrasting or analogous colors. Matching colors are easiest to correlate with existing furnishings, but contrasting and analogous colors give you variety with harmony.

Usually the size of the coordinating patterns will differ. A single motif in one pattern can be repeated in the companion wallcovering, or the patterns can be completely different but use the same colors.

There are also wallcoverings with identical designs printed in the reverse colors, giving a totally different effect but a pleasing continuity.

Decorating tips

Here are some tips on decorating with coordinated designs, offered by the Wallcovering Information Bureau:

- You can use as many as three patterns in one room, but what you select will largely depend on the scale and the layout of your rooms.
- All rooms visible from another room should be compatible. The foyer or entry is a good place to start.

Whatever you use to say "welcome" should be in harmony with whatever areas are within sight. Frequently, the entire home should be coordinated, and this is especially important in open plan designs.

- Colors should always be compatible, but the scale may vary depending on the size of your rooms.

One method is to select a larger pattern for the larger areas. Then, select a smaller pattern-either a smaller version of the same design, or a plaid, stripe, geometric or textured wallcovering-in the same or very similar colorway for the smaller areas.

- In smaller homes or apartments, the secret to mixing patterns is to keep the scale quite similar for major areas. The same pattern in reverse colors could be an easy and interesting solution.
- Select the predominant pattern, then use one color in the pattern as the key decorating shade.

For a copy of the booklet "All You Need to Know About Wallcoverings," write to The Wallcovering Information Bureau, Dept. S80, 66 Morris Avenue, Springfield, NJ07081.

Free remodeling book offers helpful hints

Learn how to make the exterior of your home brighter and more attractive by writing for a new booklet from the Aluminum Siding Information Bureau.

It will give you valuable tips on how to choose the right siding and is full of information about all the different kinds of siding, siding trim and accessories available.

It also tells you about new colors and textures, and discusses warranties and how to choose a contractor.

For a free copy of this 16-page booklet, "A Homeowner's Guide to Choosing Siding," write to the Aluminum Siding Information Bureau, Dept. AS-4, 250 West 57th Street New York, NY 10019.

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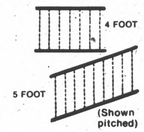

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